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DATA RELATING TO THE SITE OF THE CROSSLEY REFLECTOR.

The site for the CROSSLEY Reflector is to be on the summit called *Mount Ptolemy* (see Hand-book of the LICK Observatory, p. 18), about 1000 feet south of the Great Dome, and near the brick cottages built for Professors BARNARD and CAMPBELL in 1894.

A road winds up the west side of *Mount Ptolemy*, past the two cottages, and directly round the south wall of the CROSSLEY Dome, and returns to the point of starting, along the eastern slope of the hill. This road was entirely completed May 16, 1895.

The rain water from the cottages and dome (about 80,000 gallons per year) will be collected in tanks at a point near where these roads join the regular stage-road from San José (about 177.6 feet below the marble floor of the L. O.), and from thence pumped by a windmill to a new reservoir, to be built some 100 feet south of the Great Dome, and about 25 feet lower than the L. O. floor. Surplus water from this reservoir will flow into *Huyghens Reservoir*, whose top is 31 feet below the marble floor. On the other hand, the new reservoir can be filled from *Kepler Reservoir* (46 feet above L. O.) or from *Copernicus Reservoir* (174 feet above L. O.). This rain-water will be used for power at the CROSSLEY Dome, whose floor will be about 120 feet lower, and for fire protection at the new cottages. The first floor of Professor CAMPBELL'S cottage (the cottage which is highest and furthest south) is about 147 feet lower than the L. O.

The data for the above-named elevations are derived from a survey by Professor CAMPBELL. E. S. H.

A METEOR SEEN AT SEA, MARCH 29, 1895.

The report that the steamship *Nessmore*, at this port, from London, had been struck by a meteor, briefly noted in the papers the day following her arrival, has attracted wide attention from those interested in ocean phenomena. Capt. RICHARDSON has given a very careful description of the incident, with the atmospheric conditions prevailing at the time.

March 29th the steamship was off the southern end of the Newfoundland banks. The day opened perfectly, and at noon a good observation was had. At 12:30 o'clock the weather changed; a dense and black fog suddenly set in, completely enveloping the

steamer. At this moment, without any warning whatever, a terrific explosion was heard, coming from the direction of the foremost top pole head. A vivid flash of a whitish color accompanied the explosion, and small particles of what appeared to be white ash matter were seen to fall to the deck.

Of course, all hands were greatly startled, and Capt. RICHARDSON, who was on the bridge, stopped the steamship. Explaining his astonishment, he said that he at first thought that some man-of-war had fired a shell at him. Recovering his composure, and finding the vessel all right, she was started ahead again. An examination of the fore pole showed a splinter of wood projecting from it at right angles, and a sailor was sent aloft to investigate. He found the pole split across and downward for three feet. The paint was burned off the entire length of the pole.

Directly after the explosion a very heavy rain set in, lasting about twenty minutes. Then the rain ceased, the fog lifted, and the sun came out brilliantly for about thirty minutes, when the fog again surrounded the vessel. The meteor, or whatever it was, came from an easterly direction. At the time, the wind was light from the south. There was no lightning either before or after the explosion.—*The Boston Herald*.

A BRIGHT METEOR.

At 4^h 31^m on the morning of April 2, 1895, an unusually bright meteor swept from the direction of δ *Aquilae*, bursting and disappearing just north of β *Aquarii*. Its brightness was about equal to the seven-days-old Moon. Its color was white. It was visible only one or two seconds, and left but faint indications of a train, which disappeared rapidly. There was no noise. C. D. P.

STUDENTS AT THE LICK OBSERVATORY, 1895.

The following students will work at Mount Hamilton during the summer of 1895:

Professor ROBERT G. AITKEN, M. A. (Williams College), now Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy in the University of the Pacific *Special*.

Mr. WILLIAM H. WRIGHT, B. S. (University of California, 1893). *Candidate for M. S.*

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF CHARLES W. TUTTLE (1829-1881),
 FORMERLY ASSISTANT IN HARVARD COLLEGE
 OBSERVATORY.

The *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, Vol. 42, page 1, contains an extended sketch of the life of CHARLES W. TUTTLE, Assistant in Harvard College Observatory (1850-1854), with an excellent portrait on steel. Mr. TUTTLE is known to astronomers by his observations of the dusky ring of *Saturn* (1850), his discovery of a comet (1853), and other work of importance.

E. S. H.

CUT OF THE LUNAR APENNINES.

The cut of the lunar Apennines in the present number is reproduced from a heliogravure in Volume III of the *Publications* of the LICK Observatory. We owe this cut to the courtesy of the editor of *McClure's Magazine*.

E. S. H.

COMPARISON STARS OBSERVED WITH THE MERIDIAN CIRCLE.

The two stars used for the determination of *Eucharis*, at this opposition, have been observed with the Meridian Circle.

The numbers, in accordance with the system in use heretofore, represent the hours, minutes, and seconds of the A. R., for the epoch 1900.

No.	MAG.	A. R.			1895.0.			DECL.		
		H.	M.	S.	°	'	"			
125733	*9 $\frac{3}{4}$	12	57	18.52	+ 16	6	42.9			
130138	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	13	1	23.70	+ 15	35	24.4			

* N. fol. of close pair.

Two observations have been given to each star.

R. H. TUCKER.

A LARGE METEOR.

TRACY, April 17, 1895.—A large meteor was seen this evening at 6:53 o'clock, to the southeast, at an altitude of about 40°, moving westward. When near the horizon to the southwest, it exploded, breaking into three bright fragments.—*S. F. Chronicle*, April 18, 1895.

COMPLETION OF THE BRICKWORK OF THE CROSSLEY DOME.

It is expected that all the brickwork for the new CROSSLEY dome, including an entrance portico, a photographic dark-room, a bedroom for a janitor, a study for an astronomer, and a winch-room, will be entirely completed about July 10th. The walls of the dome will be surmounted by a cap of artificial stone, to receive the iron rail on which the dome is to turn. The telescope left England on June 28th. E. S. H.

LEVELS.—DISTANCES BELOW MARBLE FLOOR OF THE LICK OBSERVATORY. (4209 FEET ABOVE SEA.)

	Feet.
I.—At bend in stage-road south of 36'' Dome (nail driven in base course of brick at foot of slope going up to Dome)	26.32
II.—Plank walk north of N. W. corner of old east frame cottage	72.73
III.—Road opposite telephone pole No. 3	115.4
IV.—Top of landing for brick cottages	177.63
V.—Surface of road in saddle between L. O. and brick houses, about	180.
VI.—First floor south brick cottage	147.1
VII.—Floor of CROSSLEY Dome (about)	143.

W. W. CAMPBELL.

DEATH OF PROFESSOR DANIEL KIRKWOOD.

Professor DANIEL KIRKWOOD, the Dean of American Astronomers, and an honored member of this Society, died at his home in Riverside, California, on June 11, 1895. A history of his life and works has recently been printed, with a portrait.

He is best known to astronomers by his researches on the Asteroids, which have a permanent value in science. His personal friends will long remember his kindly, upright, and beautiful character and influence. No one could be with him without knowing that here was a true and a good man. E. S. H.

STUDENT AT THE LICK OBSERVATORY.

Mr. J. M. BROSIUS (B. S., Monmouth), Instructor in Mathematics and Astronomy in Napa College. *Special.*